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EDITORIAL

For sixty years we Fabians have been studying and thinking about the many things which can be done by a government of Socialists. In spite of the varying fortunes and political prospects of the Labour Party, we have always endeavoured to base our plans on the assumption that some day Labour would rule in Westminster. From this time forth there will be much less hypothesis about our thinking and our discussions. When we talk of matters of high policy we must get accustomed to the idea of Labour Ministers—many of them well-known to Fabians and sympathetic to our efforts—sitting in Whitehall, instead of firing questions and criticisms at those who held those seats until July 26th. When our researches lead us to ingenious and novel conclusions, we can no longer feel reasonably certain of being first in the field; it may often be the case that some far-sighted Labour minister, backed by a team of paid experts, has got as far as we have or gone further.

The future may not be as exciting as we hoped on July 26th it would be; but it is going to be extremely interesting. There will be plenty of work for Fabians to do, in libraries and in conference, in the local societies and in the D L P's. Our job will not consist merely of explaining and interpreting the Government's policies, plans, and preparations to those who want to know. It is as important as ever before that we should be thinking ahead, drawing attention to neglected issues, and generally fulfilling our traditional function of independent socialist research.

Meanwhile, the most vital struggle of the next few months will be waged in the municipal arena. To consolidate Labour's victory in the municipal elections, we must give further impetus to the "Labour landslide" and pull off an equally striking success in the Borough elections in the Autumn and the County and District elections next Spring.

This issue of *Fabian Quarterly* is designed to help in a small way those who will be taking part in municipal contests. The leading article is entirely concerned with issues and policy. Two others, consisting of short notes, embody factual information not easily obtainable elsewhere in such a concise form. The fourth, an early fruit of a piece of original research, supplies some of the badly needed evidence for the contention that local government in many rural areas has little "democratic content", in so far as public interest and activity in their elections and affairs is notably weak.

Short articles such as these can supply only part of the factual ammunition for the coming contests. A Speakers' Handbook, packed with relevant information, is essential, and this the Labour Party is speedily preparing for early publication.

In this issue of the *Quarterly* there is also a new feature, *In and Around Number Eleven*. It replaces the short reports on research which once appeared regularly but have been discontinued during recent months largely because of the paper shortage. Its aim is to give members of the Society and other readers some idea of what is going on in the various departments, whether it be research, education or propaganda, and thus to supplement the all too scanty information given in *Fabian News*.

In order to assist our advertisers and printers we propose to publish future issues at the beginning instead of in the course of the four seasons. This means that the *Quarterly* will appear one month earlier than at present, i.e. in December, March, June and September.

LABOUR MUST CAPTURE LOCAL GOVERNMENT

by Lord Latham

(Leader of the London County Council)

Having at length succeeded in getting a Labour Government into power, we must as a corollary extend the influence and power of Labour in the field of local government. If the full results of the Government's intended legislation for improved and wider social services are to be attained, our municipal authorities, upon whom falls the duty of providing and administering these services, must be moved by the same spirit as those who frame and carry through the legislation. Our next task, then, is to capture Local Authorities for Labour.

HOUSING

What will be the vital issues in the forthcoming municipal elections? First and foremost will be Housing—in the rural districts as well as in the towns and urban areas. Those of us who do not live in the country are apt to forget that the countryside has its slums, and pretty bad ones too.

However comprehensive and bold may be the housing policy of the Labour Government, it cannot fully succeed unless there is the utmost co-operation, energy and drive on the part of the municipal housing authorities, and all history shows that, generally speaking, this will depend on the extent to which Labour councillors can exert their power and influence. Landlordism and property interests are still strongly entrenched on many local councils; however much enthusiasm for housing their representatives may outwardly show, they cannot be expected to be active in disregard of these interests. Labour has been and must be the dynamic agency. For some years to come, housing will be the top-line home problem both nationally and locally. It is ' political dynamite ' and all parties and candidates will be judged in great measure by their ability to provide the greatest number of permanent houses in the shortest possible time—houses in which a decent, comfortable home can be made; well designed, properly sited, and with modern equipment.

An adequate supply of permanent houses must be Labour's policy. But the demand for living accommodation (indeed, in many cases for mere shelter) is so urgent and so widespread, that it would be unwise on our part to refuse to erect temporary houses, much as we may dislike them, as a short term contribution towards reducing the present acute shortage. Thus where the need exists and sites are available, the use of which would not prejudice permanent housing, the local authority, in addition to pressing on with normal houses, should also seek to secure the speedy erection of as many temporary houses as are required to help to bridge the interval before permanent dwellings become available. In many places it is not a question of a temporary house or a permanent house, but of a temporary house or no accommodation at all. Often the choice will be between a temporary house and one or two rooms in an old house built for one family, but now occupied by several families sharing a common kitchen, lavatory and bathroom, if any. So until the serious shortage is eased we must be realists about temporary houses.

TOWN PLANNING

Next in importance and closely allied to housing is the planning and rebuilding of our towns and cities; not only of ' blitzed ' areas where they exist, but also the areas ' blighted ' by obsolescence and bad development—to be found in varying degree in almost every town and city in the land. Unless there is a sound, forward-looking planning policy both for the actual construction work of the municipality and for the control of private development, not only will these eyesores be perpetuated, but new, disordered and unsightly areas will arise to mock and defeat future planning, as was the case after the last war. And the clamant demand for houses will greatly increase this danger unless a long-term planning policy can be formulated and resolutely followed. There are more and quicker profits to be derived from unplanned buildings and where the profit is, there the speculators will be. Sound planning must include the provision of adequate open spaces: not only large parks and recreation grounds, but also small open spaces for playgrounds in or near areas where large numbers of children live. This is one of the great needs in the built-up areas of our towns and cities. These small open spaces should have attractive playing equipment to attract the children away from street dangers.

EDUCATION

With those councils who are local education authorities, whether with full or delegated powers, the imaginative and bold implementation of the reforms in the new Education Act will be vital if the children of today and tomorrow are to have a fair educational start in life. Whilst the provisions of the new Act fall short in many respects of what many of us wish to see, there is much that *can* be done (apart from what *must* be), if those locally responsible are determined to wring out of the new powers the maximum yield of educational advance.

HEALTH

Then there is the widespread need for improving the local health services. Comprehensive health services, preventive and curative, cannot be provided until an all-embracing National Scheme is settled and embodied in legislation. In this connection it is very encouraging to know that the Labour Minister of Health will refuse to adopt the concessions which his feeble Tory predecessor seemed ready to make to the doctors and others, and that he will seek to retain as a minimum basis the main proposals of the White Paper, with such adjustments by way of improvement as the health needs of the people require. Any increase in Labour influence and power in local government will strengthen the hands of the Minister in resisting the claims of sectional and other interests.

But apart from the wider scope of any national scheme there is quite a lot that many local authorities can do under existing powers to improve their health services. To serve war needs, new facilities have been provided by a number of municipalities. There is a danger that these may be discontinued or whittled away unless Labour is there on guard to prevent it. This is especially so in the case of clinics and daytime nurseries and facilities for expectant and nursing mothers. In too many cases before the war these were left to the care of voluntary or quasi-voluntary bodies, seldom equipped with trained staff or adequate funds, even when subsidised by the local authority.

This brings me to the large body of permissive powers possessed by many local authorities, much of which is not put into operation, or only half-heartedly, unless and until the councils are compelled to act by the pressure of public opinion, organised and made vocal through Labour representatives. It

is idle for Parliament to give local authorities new and wider powers to serve the people if many of them are to remain a dead letter, as has so often been the case in the past.

There are many other features of local government which are important for the well-being of the people and there are, of course, particular problems affecting particular areas. But the main questions are these of Housing; Planning; Education and Health.

SERVICE FOR THE PEOPLE

Every day local government touches the lives of the people at every point; it is the principal administrative machine in the country. We must capture it for Labour. But that is not all, for we must also raise the spirit and standard of administration so that local government may perform its expanding functions in the most efficient way. The quality of local government is determined by the quality and ability of its elected members and of the officers and staff in its service. A Council composed of men and women of ability and of high integrity, who will apply themselves to mastering their job, will attract good officers and staff and will get the best out of them. It is essential, therefore, for us to select as candidates men and women with the necessary ability and time, who, if elected, will equip themselves by study and application to perform their duties efficiently and in the public interest. Too often service in local government is looked on only as a stepping stone to something else, whereas it should be considered as a worthy purpose and aim in itself. Nor should candidates be chosen as a kind of reward for past services in the Party, however valuable. If local government is to become a vital, energetic agency for creating a better social life for the people it must be manned by persons with not only the impulse for service, but also the capacity to serve in this particular and important field of public work.

Local government in this country is happily passing out of the phase of being a number of ' first-aid ' services for the needy and the unfortunate and is becoming, and must be made, the agency for providing for all citizens and in the most satisfactory ways those services which are collectively necessary for the well-being of the local community, as a part of the planned and organised better life of the nation as a whole.

The former negative conception of relief of hardship and distress must give place to the broader conception of positive service towards improving the standard of life and of culture, and for the enjoyment by the people of their increasing leisure. This must be the real purpose and interest of local government in the future; then we shall be able with justice and truth to talk with civic pride of our towns and cities and our country districts. Civic pride rests not upon Charters nor upon corporate plate, nor Coats-of-Arms, but upon the standard and amplitude of the services available for the citizens. Thus it is imperative that in selecting persons as candidates for municipal councils we should be careful and, indeed, insistent to see that they have the ability and the character well and truly to do the job with credit to themselves and to our Party and with benefit to the community at large.

Only the best should be good enough for Labour.

(Further copies of this article can be obtained from the Fabian Bookshop at a price of 1d. plus postage.)

THE DEMOCRATIC CONTENT OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

by "Administrator"

Since the beginning of the war in 1939 numerous proposals have been put forward for the reform of local government, with regard to both structure and functions, and most make some reference to the need for preserving democracy in local affairs. At least two of the proposals, which have been put forward by local authority associations, assert that any change in the direction of larger areas or the substitution of the present structure by a system of 'all-purpose' authorities will diminish the democratic element in local government. These assertions have, amongst other things, given rise to a desire to ascertain just how far democracy has pervaded local government in the past. This article is the first fruit of an investigation now being made into the working of local democracy—principally into the proportions of local electorates which voted in the elections held before the war, and into the question of contributions to and representation on county councils by county districts. Admittedly, the democracy of local government is not to be measured in entirety by these two factors alone, but they are both important elements in it, and an examination of them will at least show whether or not the existing structure is as democratic as some people assume it to be.

The investigation covers four administrative counties and their associated county boroughs: Devon, Cambridge, Nottingham and West Riding of Yorkshire. These areas were selected as being typical of the country as a whole in that they cover maritime, inland, mainly agricultural, mainly industrial and mixed areas. It has not been possible to cover the whole country in view of the thousands of local authorities involved, and as no central record of local government elections was kept before the war it has been necessary to undertake the inquiry by the method of samples.

As far as election results are concerned, the investigation has covered a period of six years before the war so as to include two complete elections of all councils.

There are three possibilities in local government elections : (1) more candidates may be nominated than there are seats to be filled, in which case a poll has to be held; (2) the number of candidates nominated is not more than the number of vacancies, in which case the candidates are elected unopposed; (3) if no candidates are nominated, the previous member is deemed to be elected (Second Schedule, Local Government Act, 1933). The frequency with which these possibilities occur gives some indication of the extent of democracy. In the first case, the electorate is given a chance to record its opinion, and the strength of democracy can be measured by the proportion of the electorate who vote. In the second case, the election can only be said to be democratic if the unopposed candidates really represent the wishes of the electorate; but this is not known, for the lack of opposition may be due to a failure on the part of the body of electors to exercise their civic duty or to a positive desire to elect the existing candidate(s), even if nominated by

a few friends. The third case shows complete failure of the civic duty; democracy is only complete where it is strong enough to receive expression and in this case it is to all intents and purposes non-existent.

Bearing these points in mind, it is interesting to consider the results of the investigation in some of the districts covered.

HOW MANY SEATS WERE CONTESTED?

Table I below shows the proportion of the electoral divisions which were contested in a selection of districts from each county sampled. The figures in brackets indicate the number of divisions in which no nomination was made.

The percentages of contested to total seats at all the elections can be summarised thus:—

Percentage	*County Boroughs*	*County Councils*	*Non-County Boroughs*	*Urban Districts*	*Rural Districts*
0—10	–	–	5	–	4
10.1—20	1	4	5	1	3
20.1—30	2	–	3	2	1
30.1—40	2	1	6	3	–
40.1—50	4	1	11	5	1
50.1—60	7	2	1	6	–
60.1—70	7	–	7	3	1
70.1—80	6	–	7	6	–
80.1—90	12	–	4	2	–
90.1—100	12	–	26	20	–

TABLE I

CONTESTED SEATS AS A PROPORTION OF TOTAL SEATS IN CERTAIN DISTRICTS

Area	*Year of Election*					
	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
County Boroughs—	%	%	%	%	%	%
Exeter	17.6	29.4	29.4	41.2	52.9	35.3
Plymouth	95.2	42.9	95.2	85.7	85.7	*
Nottingham ..	81.3	87.5	81.3	75.0	69.4	81.3
Bradford	86.4	81.8	40.9	50.9	80.9	71.4
Dewsbury	66.6	88.8	66.6	55.5	44.4	66.6
Halifax	40.0	66.6	73.3	73.3	60.0	73.3
Huddersfield ..	66.6	53.3	80.0	66.6	60.0	53.3 (2)
Leeds	92.3	92.3	80.8	100.0	96.2	100.0
Wakefield	90.9	90.9	90.9	81.8	100.0	90.9
County Councils—						
Devon	—	10.8	—	—	16.4	—
Cambridge.. ..	—	17.6	—	—	15.7	—
Nottingham ..	—	51.9	—	—	47.2	—
West Riding ..	—	50.5	—	—	36.5 (1)	—

* Figures not available.

Area	*Year of Election*					
	1933	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938
Non-County Boroughs—	%	%	%	%	%	%
Barnstaple	100.0	100.0	50.0	50.0	100.0	100.0
Dartmouth.. ..	80.0	80.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Okehampton ..	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Torquay	50.0	75.0	25.0	25.0	50.0	100.0
Cambridge.. ..	41.7	8.3	91.7	58.3	50.0	16.6
East Retford ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	33.3	66.6	66.6
Mansfield	100.0	100.0	66.6	100.0	100.0	100.0
Worksop	50.0	83.4	66.6	83.4	83.4	83.4
Brighouse	50.0	75.0	75.0	37.5	62.5 (1)	91.7
Keighley	16.6	100.0	33.3	33.3	Nil	16.6
Pudsey	33.3	66.6	16.6	16.6	*	71.4
Ripon	100.0	25.0	75.0	100.0	*	100.0
Todmorden ..	50.0	66.6	33.3	50.0	*	50.0
Urban Districts	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
Ashburton ..	100.0	—	—	100.0	—	—
Buckfastleigh ..	100.0	—	—	100.0	—	—
Crediton	100.0	—	100.0	—	—	—
Arnold	100.0	—	—	100.0	—	—
Beeston and Stapleford	—	83.4	—	66.6	—	—
Eastwood	—	100.0	—	66.6	—	—
Baildon	25.0	75.0	100.0	75.0	75.0	50.0
Bingley	71.4	42.9	42.9	55.5	42.9	55.5
Elland	40.0	80.0	60.0	85.5	100.0	55.5
Knottingley ..	66.6	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Selby	100.0	100.0	100.0	50.0	100.0	25.0
Shipley	20.0	40.0	60.0	60.0	40.0	80.0
Rural Districts—						
Chesterton ..		61.5 (1)			7.7 (2)	
Newmarket ..	16.6	Nil	28.6	50.0	12.5	Nil
South Cambridgeshire		15.6 (2)			3.1 (1)	

These results show that the boroughs and urban districts provide more opportunities for the expression of democracy than the other types of local authorities. The counties and rural districts are at the other end of the scale, and the majority of their members are elected without opposition.

HOW MANY VOTED?

Turning now to the figures for the proportions of the electors who voted, the following results are observed. These figures, given in Table II (p. 7), have been based in each case on the total electorates for the whole district

* Figures not available.

in view of the lack of separate information as to the electorates for every contested division; they therefore reflect to some extent the tendencies shown in the previous analysis, but are more pronounced because the proportion of the electorate which voted never reached 100 per cent.

Table II can be summarised as follows :—

Percentage	*County Boroughs*	*County Councils*	*Non-County Boroughs*	*Urban Districts*	*Rural Districts*
0—10	–	2	11	1	16
10.1—20	1	3	9	5	1
20.1—30	13	2	15	13	1
30.1—40	14	–	12	11	–
40.1—50	17	–	14	6	–
50.1—60	7	–	7	8	–
60.1—70	1	–	7	3	–
70.1—80	–	–	–	1	–
80.1—90	–	–	–	–	–
90.1—100	–	–	–	–	–

Once again the trends previously observed are apparent. The boroughs and urban districts are at one end of the scale and the counties and rural districts are at the other. The majority of the boroughs are in the 31% to 60% groups, whilst all the county councils and rural districts come in the 0 to 30% groups.

These facts support the thesis held by many independent observers that the counties and rural districts are less democratic than the other forms of local authorities. The figures should also be studied by the reformers of local government before they accept the argument that to enlarge the areas of local government or to set up a system of ' all-purpose ' authorities is to destroy democracy.

TABLE II

PERCENTAGE OF ELECTORS IN CERTAIN DISTRICTS WHO EXERCISED THEIR VOTE

Area	*Year of Election* 1933 %	1934 %	1935 %	1936 %	1937 %	1938 %
County Boroughs—						
Exeter	15.9	26.4	25.1	36.9	40.9	31.1
Plymouth	53.0	24.6	51.1	45.2	40.2	*
Nottingham	37.1	36.3	36.7	36.7	31.8	38.4
Bradford	46.6	44.3	21.1	25.3	43.8	28.6
Dewsbury	36.4	46.4	42.6	29.9	23.6	41.1
Halifax	21.1	34.3	39.9	40.2	32.1	41.7
Huddersfield	28.2	22.5	37.9	31.6	28.3	24.6
Leeds	41.6	47.4	43.0	48.8	42.9	42.8
Wakefield	57.3	58.2	54.7	51.1	63.7	59.4
County Councils—						
Devon	—	*	—	—	5.5	—
Cambridge	—	12.6	—	—	7.3	—
Nottingham	—	26.0	—	—	16.9	—
West Riding	—	21.6	—	—	14.0	—

*Figures not available.

Area	Year of Election 1933 %	1934 %	1935 %	1936 %	1937 %	1938 %
Non-County Boroughs—						
Barnstaple	51.0	39.5	22.7	21.9	44.3	45.7
Dartmouth	32.6	30.0	48.5	59.6	65.7	56.5
Okehampton ..	51.4	57.3	64.8	45.6	61.9	55.5
Torquay	13.2	21.4	8.4	3.9	15.2	29.1
Cambridge	18.0	2.2	38.5	25.7	19.3	7.9
East Retford ..	Nil	Nil	Nil	13.6	37.1	25.9
Mansfield	47.8	46.4	30.0	37.5	39.3	34.5
Worksop	26.9	43.0	35.3	45.7	42.5	41.5
Brighouse	33.1	53.9	46.8	21.2	26.2	63.7
Keighley	3.9	45.0	11.0	10.3	Nil	6.9
Pudsey	23.3	43.1	11.4	8.7	*	30.8
Ripon	67.9	19.1	48.7	67.3	*	62.0
Todmorden	29.0	37.5	22.3	29.0	*	30.5
Urban Districts—	1934	1935	1936	1937	1938	1939
Ashburton	28.9	—	—	33.5	—	—
Buckfastleigh	46.7	—	—	47.8	—	—
Crediton	32.6	—	30.1	—	—	—
Arnold	38.0	—	—	39.8	—	—
Beeston and Stapleford	—	54.1	—	29.2	—	—
Eastwood	—	78.0	—	21.0	—	—
Baildon	13.6	53.4	62.0	50.6	52.6	37.9
Bingley	37.4	24.9	21.8	29.0	28.6	27.1
Elland	21.5	37.0	35.6	59.4	36.7	25.6
Knottingley	30.2	44.4	49.6	57.7	56.7	49.2
Selby	57.7	62.0	46.0	29.1	63.8	16.9
Shipley	5.1	13.5	17.5	21.0	12.2	23.9
Rural Districts—						
Chesterton	24.1	4.9	5.1	2.8	Nil	Nil
Newmarket	1.6	Nil	3.9	10.6	4.1	Nil
South Cambridgeshire	8.4	Nil	1.2	Nil	1.5	Nil

The importance of these figures for Fabians is that they indicate the problems to be tackled now that local government elections are to be resumed. The first elections will be the borough elections in November; in the past these have been fairly well fought and the greatest improvement which can be effected is in getting the public to go to the polls to record their votes when they have the opportunity to do so. There are, however, a number of boroughs where an increase in the number of contested divisions will be of advantage, and this is one of the tasks to which Fabians can well set themselves.

The elections in the counties and the urban and rural districts will be held in the Spring of 1946, and here the task, though similar, is a much heavier one. There is a very great need for more candidates to be in the field, and

*Figures not available.

this of itself will produce a big increase in the proportion of electors who vote. One of the worst potential results of the lack of candidates is possibly the tendency for many councillors to be re-elected for years without opposition, for this means that councils become gatherings of old people. But there is another disturbing consequence. If there are comparatively few changes in the personnel of the local councils a static attitude towards local problems is apt to develop because there is not a sufficiently strong influx of new ideas. Local administration in these circumstances tends to become rigid, and there is no elasticity of approach to the constantly changing problems of civic affairs. To be truly democratic, the outlook of the council should be a reflection of that of the community.

AUTHOR'S NOTES

(1) In the case of wards or electoral divisions where there were more than one candidate to be elected, the number of people voting has been arrived at by dividing the number of votes polled by the number of candidates to be elected. This has been necessary as each voter was entitled to as many votes as there were candidates to be elected. To the extent that electors did not exercise the full number of votes allowed, the results given in Table II can only be approximate.

(2) In the majority of cases it has not been possible to obtain information direct from the local authorities concerned, and local newspapers have had to be relied upon in these instances.

EXPERIMENTS IN SOCIAL PROGRESS

[N.B. The following notes give a brief account of four interesting developments which have been initiated by local authorities during recent years, mostly within the framework of existing legislation. The choice of subjects has had to be made somewhat arbitrarily, in order to ensure that each note covers a different field of service from the others, and many interesting achievements have had to be overlooked. We should like to make it clear that what follows is only a sample and not an exhaustive survey.—*The Editor.*]

THE WYTHENSHAWE ESTATE—MANCHESTER

Wythenshawe is the first satellite town built by a municipality—the city of Manchester. In 1919 a survey of land within the city suitable for the development of municipal houses was made. Four thousand acres were necessary for the 50,000 houses required and only about half the amount could be found within the city boundaries. But immediately across the River Mersey, in the county of Cheshire, lay the Wythenshawe estate. The estate proper comprised 2,500 acres, but with land belonging to other owners there were altogether 5,500 acres which offered an excellent area for development. Plenty of land was available for parks, a golf course, open spaces, parkways, and industrial zones.

The City Council purchased the estate proper by agreement at an average price of £80 an acre. The 2,000 acres within the city, bought in relatively small plots, cost on the average £400 an acre. Attempts were then made to purchase the remainder of the land in Wythenshawe, much of which was already intermingled with the Corporation's property. Another 700 acres were bought in this way; but by then the price had increased, since owners were holding on to their land in the expectation of a rise in value. In 1931 the Corporation scheduled another 1,300 acres and applied to the Ministry of Health for a compulsory purchase order. This was refused on the mistaken ground of economy. Subsequently the Corporation managed to buy by agreement 290 acres, but naturally at a higher price than it would have paid under a compulsory order.

Meanwhile the Corporation, profiting by the experience of Letchworth and Welwyn, where the local authority was not the landlord, applied in 1927 to Parliament for power to incorporate the 5,500 acres within the city. Cheshire naturally opposed the Bill and so did the Rural District Council in whose area the estate was situated. The Rural District Council went so far as to assure the Parliamentary Committee that it could provide the main drains, roads, etc., necessary for the houses which Manchester would build. Parliament turned out Manchester's Bill and three years were lost before Manchester made a second application. Since the drainage supplied by the Rural District Council was only sufficient for 100 houses, even the Parliamentary Committee was convinced this time, and the area was incorporated in 1931. It was only then that development could begin seriously, and by 1938 the Corporation had built 7,000 houses, schools and shopping centres. It had leased land for 700 private houses, fifteen small factories, three public houses, and one cinema. The population, including the previously developed village of Northenden, was 34,000. As soon as the original estate was purchased, the City Council

set up a small committee to manage the estate, and appointed Mr Barry Parker to prepare the plan of development. It was due to his knowledge of American development that the first parkway in England is situated in Wythenshawe. His original plan has been somewhat modified to comply with most recent ideas of town planning, and the total population which will be accommodated is to be 80,000, divided into neighbourhood units of approximately 10,000 people.

The chief points that emerge from the Wythenshawe experience are three :

1. That only a large city can provide the necessary capital for the development which must precede the building of houses, and only such an authority can ensure that the houses *will* be built, and so make the expenditure of capital remunerative.
2. That the parent city must be the local authority of the satellite town. Only in this way can the people who go to live in the houses be sure that the other services, schools, libraries, swimming baths, parks, child welfare centres, etc., etc., will not only be provided, but provided at a standard as high as that of the city from which they have moved. This point is perhaps of special importance with regard to educational facilities. Cheshire has never provided secondary education on so generous a scale as Manchester, and it would have been difficult to induce Manchester citizens to move to Wythenshawe, and unfair to ask them to do so, if their children were going to suffer educationally.
3. The parent city should also own all the land. In the first place it gets a return on its capital by means of ground rents as development takes place; only very exceptionally did the Wythenshawe Committee sell any land outright. Secondly, it can then exercise much greater control over development than is possible under Town Planning powers alone.

So far the only municipality which has followed Manchester's example is Liverpool, where the satellite garden town of Speke, comprising 800 acres, is owned by the city. Already 2,000 houses have been built and twenty factories built and owned by the Corporation and let to tenants. Eventually, a population of 20,000 is expected to live there.

Manchester's post-war plans involve a second Wythenshawe somewhere in Cheshire. Some other municipalities embody proposals for satellite towns in their schemes. The attitude of the late Government to the incorporation by the parent city of land situated in an adjoining county was not too favourable; but it is to be hoped that the Labour Government will not be—as Conservative Governments have always been—tender to counties at the expense of county boroughs. After all, the overriding consideration is not whether a county should lose a portion of its undeveloped land; since agricultural land pays no rates, the actual loss of rateable value is very small. It is whether overcrowded citizens who cannot be given decent living conditions within their city's boundary will be better looked after by that city through an extension of its boundaries, than if they were overspilled into a county which feels no responsibility for them, and which may well provide services at a lower standard than those to which they have been accustomed.

SHENA D. SIMON.

A SOUTH DOWNS PRESERVATION SCHEME

Some planners hold that if local authorities had used the 'enabling' planning powers provided under the pre-war Town and Country Planning Acts, much of the present urban muddle could have been avoided—including suburban sprawl, high density building in central areas and ugly scattered

development in unspoiled rural areas. This view is very much open to doubt. Even if powers could have been pieced together from the various Acts, the overriding difficulty facing well-intentioned local authorities, was the payment of compensation. This problem, incidentally, is still unsolved. In the case of a Rural District Council, anxious to preserve an area of special beauty for the benefit of the public, the compensation payable for the land, arising from its potential building value, normally makes any scheme impossible. The fact that such land *has* potential building value can hardly be denied; if there were no threat from development there would be no need for a preservation scheme.

It is therefore interesting to note that one of the most successful Rural Preservation Schemes on record—the South Downs Scheme—was made possible through the generosity of the majority of the local landowners in deciding to waive their claims for compensation completely. (It is unfortunate that this happy solution so seldom occurs in urban areas.)

The scheme for the South Downs Preservation had a curious beginning. In 1932 the present Hailsham Rural District was administered by two authorities, Eastbourne R D C and Hailsham R D C, combined for Planning Purposes as the Statutory Joint Committee. In that year the late Headmaster of Eastbourne College offered to give to the public some 80 acres of marshland in the Cuckmere Valley. This was accomplished by means of a Section 34 Agreement under the 1932 Act. It was the first of a series of agreements which in 18 months Mr W. O. Humphery, then Planning Officer to the Hailsham Council, and now County Planning Officer to East Sussex County Council, was able to complete for some 10,000 acres of open space. This area included several thousand acres of Downland all within what is now known as the Hailsham Planning Scheme No. 1.

The County Council then launched their Downland Preservation Scheme, which covered about 35,000 acres of the South Downs, in several districts. The Hailsham, Chailey and Cuckfield Rural Districts, the Borough of Lewes and the Urban District of Seaford relinquished their planning powers (so far as the Downland Area was concerned) to the County Council, who undertook to bear the compensation for preservation in perpetuity, subject to a contribution of the capitalised value of ¼d rate from each District.

The Downland is now practically covered by operative agreements except for Crown land and certain areas owned by Local Authorities, where agreement in principle has been reached, but without formalities.

The Scheme has one or two especially interesting features. For example, land in Cradle Valley was compulsorily reserved as a private open space. The authority adopted this unusual procedure with the intention of clearing away a collection of unsightly shacks, time being allowed for the owners to move. Again the area behind West Dean, which commands extensive views, was completely prohibited to movable dwellings—normally this form of control is exercised under the Public Health Act of 1936.

ELIZABETH MCALLISTER
(Editor, *Town and Country Planning*).

THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE VILLAGE COLLEGES

The main achievement of the Cambridgeshire Education Committee between the wars was the establishment of four village Colleges in four villages in the County. The nucleus of the College is the senior (now modern) school for boys and girls between 11 and 14 years drawn from 10 or 12 surrounding villages. The essential feature of the College is that it provides for continuity of education throughout life within the same grounds and building. On leaving

the modern school, the boy or girl may join one of the Clubs which meets at the College or enrol in one of the evening classes or come to the College for the weekly film show; very likely he will do all three. As he grows older other activities open out. There may be classes under the Workers' Education Association or the Extra-Mural Board; he may spend an hour or two in the Library which is open every night; the craft rooms will be available if he cares to use them; he may join his friends for a snack in the canteen or attend the weekly dance. There is no reason why the villagers should not continue to use one or other of the College activities up to any age; it is said that one of the colleges has a student of 83. In peace time transport is provided in the evenings to bring students from the contributing villages to the College. This is free for young persons under 18.

What is remarkable about the Village Colleges is that they have been built with the purpose of adolescent and adult education firmly in mind. The buildings are good to look upon, with plenty of space, including garden and playing fields. There is a large hall with stage, a canteen and lounge, and a room specially set apart for evening gatherings of adults. This is comfortably furnished and has no suggestion of a schoolroom about it. Besides the Warden and teaching staff of the modern school, there is an adult supervisor and a youth leader—both full time. These two not only organise the classes and other functions in the College, but also concern themselves with the surrounding villages and encourage in them such activities as are suitable for a small village possessing none of the special equipment which exists at the College.

Two of the colleges are set in completely rural surroundings; two are in villages in which there has been some industrial development. There is no doubt of the support they have received from the country people. At a recent supper which was held at the conclusion of the winter programme in one of the two former colleges just mentioned, 160 adults were present—about 100 from the parent village and 60 from those contributing. Proposals will shortly be considered for extending the work in the future. It would be well to have boarding wings attached to the Colleges so that children for whom such provision was desirable might board at the College during the week and the wing might be used at weekends to house youth or adult conferences. When the school leaving age is raised, an agricultural course may be provided for the older boys and girls. To complete the scheme so as to cover the whole county, seven more colleges are required, and sites for these are now being sought.

CLARA D. RACKHAM.

THE LONDON HEALTH CENTRES

Since the early 1930's a number of the more progressive Local Authorities have developed the idea of health centres, though only some were able to complete their plans before war broke out.

Outstanding among those who were able to carry the idea of a health centre into practice are several of the London Boroughs, including Finsbury, Southwark, Bermondsey and Deptford. There is a Health Centre at Bristol, but on a smaller scale, and in Manchester plans to set up centres were upset at the outbreak of war.

All local authorities have, of course, already built offices for their public health departments, usually at the Town Hall ; and there the activities of Medical Officers of Health and health visitors have been centred. The new health centres, which exist to satisfy one of the essential needs of the Borough, are all housed in separate buildings, away from the Town Hall. They differ from each other in function, some having been planned on more ambitious lines and incorporating certain services not needed in some other area. For

example, when the Southwark Health Centre was being planned, local doctors complained of a lack of consulting room facilities in the Borough. Thus a number of suitably equipped rooms, each with a separate entrance and waiting room, have been incorporated in the new building; these are rented to local practitioners at reasonable rents.

Among the most ambitious of the pre-war centres is that at Finsbury, opened in October 1938. It approaches most nearly the ideal health centre of the future, having been planned on revolutionary lines and incorporating many new and hitherto untried ideas. About three acres of slum property were cleared to house the building. The rear of the site borders on an existing recreation ground for children. Thus there is no danger of other buildings encroaching on the centre. The building itself is modern in design, allowing for a maximum amount of natural light. All clinics are housed on the ground floor to save patients unnecessary exertion. There is a tuberculosis clinic with consulting room, surgery, laboratory, X-ray room, darkroom and so forth. There are women's dental and foot clinics and a physio-therapy room, available to residents and workers in the Borough at nominal charges. Provisions for cleaning and disinfecting are congregated at the rear of the building and so arranged that everything goes in dirty one side and comes out clean the other. Quarters for the administrative staff are provided on the first floor, as well as a lecture hall equipped with cinematic apparatus. On the same floor are caretaker's quarters, reception wards and a communal kitchen for people who are temporarily dehoused.

All pre-war health centres have one thing in common: they group all the statutory health services under one roof, thus making interchange of advice and treatment an easy matter. A woman attending an ante-natal clinic is able to have a blood test, an X-ray examination, treatment for rheumatism and ultra violet light treatment on the spot, should it be necessary. These centres also enable doctors to send patients from their consulting rooms for tests and treatment without the usual delay experienced at hospitals, and without having to pass the patient on to another medical authority.

Though the idea of a National Health service had not been muted when these experimental centres were planned and built, they are equipped with many essentials of the centres which are now being conceived. With additions in services, staff, and in some cases appliances, they can easily be adapted to meet the needs of the projected State Health Service.

EDITH LOEB.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES ON WAR SERVICE

It would take a volume to describe adequately the many and varied achievements of local authorities during the war and to evaluate the quality of service which its officers, paid and unpaid, have rendered—particularly to citizens of badly blitzed areas. In the confined space of a *Quarterly* article, shockingly little can be said. Yet, we believe that these summarised notes on the new tasks undertaken by local councils in wartime will be useful to speakers during the municipal elections, however sketchy they may be. They have been prepared by Barbara Drake and Rosemary Burke.

THE BRITISH RESTAURANT

The civic restaurant was intended originally to meet the needs of homeless persons and those deprived by enemy action of normal cooking facilities. It soon, however, became evident that the demand for ' a nourishing meal at a minimum cost ' extended far beyond the needs of bombed-out persons. Husbands of evacuated wives or wives engaged on war work, mobile workers of all kinds, workers in small shops and offices, old age pensioners, persons deprived of domestic assistance, were among the first customers. The latest official figures show that, at the end of 1944, there were nearly 2,000 ' British ' restaurants serving daily well over half-a-million main meals. A great majority of these are run by local authorities and fewer than 60 by voluntary agencies.

The normal charge for a three-course dinner is 1/2 or 1/3 in Greater London, but not all customers take every course, and some restaurants make reduced charges for smaller portions or to certain classes of customer, e.g., old age pensioners. A few restaurants are open for an evening meal as well, and others have developed a ' cash and carry ' service. The latter is said to be popular with the working housewife, where the family eats the principal meal at home.

According to figures supplied by the Ministry of Food for the period 1941–4, after amortisation of capital advanced by the Ministry for initial expenditure on installation and equipment, 362 authorities showed net profits amounting to £458,000, and 387 authorities losses of £368,000, giving a total net profit of £90,000. During the same period, but before providing amortisation, 546 authorities made profits of £893,000, and 203 authorities losses of £161,000. The determining factor in profit or loss is said to be turnover. A recent enquiry by the London Council of Social Service, covering 35 restaurants run by voluntary agencies, showed that, full account being taken of central administration, rent, etc., and due allowance being made for voluntary assistance, canteens with an annual turnover of £3,000 (roughly 200 daily customers) or over made without exception a profit, those with a turnover between £2,000 and £3,000 a small profit or loss, and those with a turnover under £2,000 a loss. There was no evidence to show that the best financial results were obtained at the expense of the dietary or the comfort of either customer or staff, but were due to good management.

The civic restaurant today is the daily resort of a considerable number of citizens, and has abundantly proved its claim to a permanent place among essential social services. Restaurants have been housed for the most part at low rents in unused premises—schools, halls, private houses—which must now, or shortly, be returned to their owners. While the service generally may be expected to be self-supporting, a good case can be made for a government grant in the immediate post-war period to meet initial capital expenditure on new buildings and equipment. The outlay would be more than repaid in

improved health and food education, in economy of fuel and materials, and not least in the release of the housewife for more productive work outside the home.

WARTIME NURSERIES[1]

'It is a somewhat ironical reflection', the Chairman of the National Society for Children's Nurseries writes,[2] 'that the most effective stimulus for nursery provision has been not so much the desire to promote the welfare of mothers and young children in peacetime as the necessity in wartime of enlisting married women with young children as industrial workers'. From little over 100, the number of nurseries has grown since the war to over 1,400, accommodating nearly 70,000 children. Of these, some 95% are administered by local public health authorities and the rest by voluntary agencies. Since June, 1941, the Exchequer has assumed responsibility, not merely for costs of adaptation of buildings and equipment, but also for maintenance less the sum of 1/– a day per child contributed by parents. The child receives in return three meals a day, mid-morning milk, overalls for children 2–5 and a change of clothing for younger children.

These nurseries cater for children under school age, but some confine themselves to the age-group 2–5 and a few to younger children. The matron or head nurse is required by the Ministry of Health to be a State Registered Nurse and her deputy must have nursing qualifications. Where children 2–5 are regular attendants, the staff is expected to include a qualified nursery school teacher. There are assistants in addition. Some of these are older women with experience of young children, others are students in training. Under the Society for Children's Nurseries scheme young girls between 16 and 18 take a one-year, or preferably a two-years' course which combines theoretical instruction with practical experience in an approved nursery. The course is designed as a preparation for entry into the nursing and teaching professions, but serves also as a general grounding for mothercraft. There are also short courses for matrons. In view of risks of infection, the knowledge of a trained nurse is indispensable, but there is need besides for experience in the care of normal healthy children.

Costs per place vary with hours of opening, number of children (a minimum economic unit is said to be 40) and regularity of attendance. According to an estimate made for the National Society of Children's Nurseries, an average figure would be 3/6 a day (2/6 net) for nurseries open 9 hours a day 5½ days a week, and 52 weeks a year, or 3/6 (2/6 net) for nurseries open 7 hours a day for 48 weeks. Where the nursery is open at night as well, the extra cost per child is estimated at 10/- a week.

The wartime nursery has fulfilled with no little success its immediate purpose, but has also in peacetime an important part to play. In order to maintain after the war a high level of production and standard of living, the nation can no longer afford not to enlist the services of married women who may be willing, and even eager, to enter full-time or part-time employment, but must be assured in return of proper care for their children. Nor is this the only and most important consideration. There is abundant evidence of the improved physical and mental development of children regularly attending a good nursery. Fear on the part of young mothers that, with two or more children, they will be condemned to a life of unrelieved domestic drudgery again is a recognised factor in family limitation.

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[1] See *Nurseries and Nursery Schools*, by V. M. Creech Jones, Research Series No. 89, 6d, for fuller information.

[2] *A Four Years' Plan for Children's Nurseries.*

A.R.P. AND CIVIL DEFENCE

The A R P Department of the Home Office was set up as far back as 1935, but the Air Raid Precautions Act which required local authorities to prepare definite schemes did not come into force until December 16th, 1937. From the start, the Government was given considerable latitude for controlling development by the issue of regulations. In general, no great enthusiasm was shown until the Sudeten crisis of September, 1938, made the danger of war imminent. Sir John Anderson was appointed Minister in charge of civil defence in November, 1938, and the campaign for preparedness got under way. The Civil Defence Act, 1939, defined the functions of local authorities with greater detail and precision, and they were urged during the following three months to give A R P priority over all other services.

DEFENCE ORGANISATION. In February, 1939, twelve Regional Commissioners were appointed. Their original purpose was to prepare to administer the country, through local organisations if air attack destroyed communications and paralysed the central Government. A circular was issued to each major local authority instructing it to link up with the Regional Commissioners by appointing an A R P Controller—someone well-known in the district, available day and night, and capable of making major decisions. In addition an Emergency Committee composed of three to five members of the local authority should be appointed to act in collaboration with the A R P Controller and keep in communication with the Regional Commissioners. The latter became in fact a means for decentralising the functions of the Ministry of Home Security. Their business was to co-ordinate Civil Defence operations in their area through consultation with the local authorities.

EVACUATION. The first two Civil Defence measures which profoundly affected our daily lives were the black-out and evacuation. The first evacuation scheme provided for the removal of more than 1,000,000 people from ' dangerous ' to ' reception ' areas. About 673,000 school children and 406,000 mothers with young children were transferred in four days, on the whole with success. But the long period between evacuation and the first raids eventually brought about a partial failure of the scheme. Boredom, dissatisfaction with billets and the complaints of husbands at home led many to return. Throughout the war there was a continuous flow of evacuees drifting backwards and forwards as the danger from the air waxed and waned. New schemes were put into operation when the blitz became severe and, in ' Southern England ', at the height of the flying-bomb attacks.

CIVIL DEFENCE PERSONNEL. By September 3rd, 1939, there were more than 1,900,000 civilians enrolled for full and part-time service in A R P, including Auxiliary Fire and Police Services. The estimated number required was about 2,000,000. The first few months of the war witnessed a rush of volunteers which brought the numbers up to the required strength. Later on, the need for maximum efficiency in operation to counter fire bomb raids led to the Fire Services (Emergency Provisions Act), 1941. This Act set up the N F S which provided for 32 Fire Forces in England and Wales, excluding the London Region. The Exchequer bore the cost of this service less a contribution from local funds, on the basis of 75% of the cost of the local Fire Brigade service in a standard year.

The variety of other services, wardens, ambulance, light and heavy rescue, etc., are too numerous to be dealt with in detail. By 1943 a tendency had developed to merge first aid and rescue parties. A standard party of seven men was established first in London and later in the provinces. During the flying bomb period a very efficient technique was involved, which, by means of mobile columns, dealt with incidents at an astonishing speed.

SHELTERS. In the earlier days of Civil Defence there was considerable controversy on the subject of ' deep shelters '. The Government finally rejected proposals, many of which were put forward by the local authorities, for the construction of them. One of their motives was to save expense, labour and materials; they also believed that dispersal of population was a greater safeguard than concentration in shelters, however deep. For protection, they issued ' Anderson ' shelters to householders, strengthened steel structures in buildings, and had surface shelters built, trenches dug in parks, etc. By the end of 1940 public shelters, in blitzed areas, had become virtually dormitories. It became necessary to provide bunks, canteens, first-aid and other services to preserve the health of the shelter-dwellers. In London, tube stations became shelters, first unofficially—the public moved in of its own accord—but later subject to regulations and with all the necessary amenities provided. Eight deep shelters, each taking 8,000 persons, were later constructed for the Ministry by the London Passenger Transport Board. Though ready by the autumn of 1942, they were not used until the flying bomb attacks were at their height. In the provinces existing tunnels were converted into shelters on similar lines.

POST-RAID SERVICES. During the earlier blitzes and particularly in thickly-populated districts, the task of coping with homeless citizens taxed the resources of local authorities to the utmost. Rest centres, which financially were the responsibility of the Ministry of Health, were set up at an early stage of the war. There were 98 in London before air raids began. But their importance only became really apparent when severe bombing started. By June, 1941, there were over 10,000 rest centres in England and Wales capable of accommodating between 1,000,000 and 1,250,000 people.

Personal relations with bombed out people were never easy. At first citizens found it very trying, after having been bombed out, to have to go first to the Town Hall for a billeting allowance, then to another office for a maintenance allowance, and were often in doubt as to what they were supposed to do. By the middle of 1941, however, about 800 local authorities had established Central Enquiry Bureaus to deal with all queries relating to emergency welfare provisions, and during the latter half of that year many authorities greatly increased their after-raid welfare arrangements. In the summer of 1944 emergency rest-centres, in the target areas of flying-bombs and rockets, were set up wherever there was a need for them.

FINANCE. The financial arrangements for A R P were extremely complex. The A R P Act, 1937, provided that the grant made by the Exchequer to local authorities should be from 60% to 75% of the approved expenditure, varying according to area. In addition the pay of whole-time Civil Defence personnel and grants for supplies and equipment of various kinds were a charge upon the Exchequer. In 1942 a Report on the Working of the Financial Provisions of the A R P Act, 1937, Cmd. 6356, was issued by the Ministry of Home Security. By this time the service had developed tremendously and the financial strain on local authorities was very severe. Even so, statistics collected from several areas in 1940–41 show that the proportion paid by the Exchequer varied from 81.6% to 93.5%, the average from these areas being 89%.

The Local Authorities put forward a proposal that from 1941–42 the Exchequer should pay 50% of expenditure in excess of the amount raised by a threepenny rate. The Government, however, offered to cover only 50% of the expenditure in excess of the product of a sixpenny rate, and laid down other conditions. This attitude was unwelcome to most local authorities and the Metropolitan Boroughs Standing Joint Committee suggested that, in Civil Defence, local authorities should be regarded merely as agents of the Govern-

ment and all approved expenditure should be reimbursable. This was the principle which applied to rest centres and rehousing schemes under the Ministry of Health. Though this proposal was never officially accepted, there was a tendency to increase the proportion paid by the Exchequer to local authorities, especially in blitzed areas, and to issue interest-free loans (part of which were to be reckoned as grants) where authorities were obviously unable to meet their vast commitments.

The experience gained by local authorities during the war in bringing speed and flexibility of outlook to bear on immediate problems should be invaluable in peacetime which, it cannot be too often reiterated, has problems no less urgent than those of war.

BOOK REVIEWS—(*continued from page* 29)

among peasant populations, who form two-thirds of world's population, barely indicated ; nor difficulties of getting changes in agriculture in these areas and of supply of capital. Even Lamartine Yates shies at the real obstacle—the maintenance of effective purchasing power under a capitalist system.

J. D. M.

MISCELLANEOUS

TIME'S WINGED CHARIOT By Ernest Thurtle (Chaterson 10/6)

In telling the story of his life, Mr Thurtle's modest aim is to give a faithful picture of a father to his children. He describes the career of a successful Labour M P—typical, perhaps, of its period—his start as a newsboy at a small Welsh station, his conversion from Toryism to Socialism, his venture to London and Trade Union activities, his entry into politics and Parliament with the rising tide of Labour during the twenties, his appointment, finally, as Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Information under the late Coalition Government.

B. D.

HOUSEWORK WITHOUT TEARS By Priscilla Novy (Pilot Press 5/-)

The practical suggestions for the replanning of the home make a valuable contribution to the solving of an urgent problem.

B. D.

HOMO SAPIENS SOCIALIS—PRINCIPLES OF THE PHILOSOPHY OF RESPONSIBILITY By Rudolph Jordan (Gordon & Gotch 12/6)

The meaning of philosophy, as defined by the writer, is ' that mental activity which tries to put together all available knowledge into a universal world view, and to value human activities on this basis '. World view and values : if we stress the first our philosophy will be static and contemplative ; if we stress the second, it will be dynamic and active. *The Philosophy of Responsibility* is an active dynamic philosophy, and regards human valuations as its essential task.

The accent is placed on the use of the intellect. The amount of perfectly unreasonable prejudice, the writer tells us, on this globe is unbelievable, all of them based on impressions from earliest childhood. Racial, economic, religious prejudices are the worst, but equally shallow is the excessive human valuation of material goods. Beyond a certain amount, these become indifferent, then positively harmful, as proved abundantly by the mental and physical sterility of privileged classes. *Stupidity is the one thing that nature does not let pass unpunished.* This interesting book comes at an opportune moment of world-wide re-erection of human values.

B. D.

IN AND AROUND NUMBER-ELEVEN

A Quarterly Report of Fabian activities

In recent issues of *Fabian Quarterly* shortage of space has prevented the inclusion of brief reports on current research. As a result, members of the Society, forced to remain content with an annual report and meeting and an 'austerity' Fabian News, have been kept badly informed of what each department is doing and planning to do. We propose now to remedy this state of affairs by printing in the *Quarterly* regular short reports on all activities of the Society, not merely on its research. The information will necessarily be brief; but we hope it will be helpful, especially to those members who rarely make contact with the central office in London.

HOME RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

ELECTION WORK. During the election campaign work in this department came virtually to a standstill, as the Secretary was loaned to the Labour Party Research Department, to assist in supplying information to candidates, and every effort was made by the remaining staff to put through those pamphlets which, if published in time, would be of service to candidates and speakers. The pamphlets on fuel and power, transport, and agriculture were prepared at extremely short notice and were based on chapters originally intended for the book on *Industrial Controls*.

OLD WORK AND NEW PLANS. The 'silent revolution' looks like holding up several nearly-completed pieces of research. Early this summer pamphlets were being prepared on subjects like structural unemployment and land-use, which were set in the landscape of coalition policy and legislation. Now that Labour is in power and its immediate policy outlined in the King's Speech, the setting of much of this work will naturally have to change. At the same time our research plans will have to be subjected to a thorough overhaul and a new scale of priorities in research drawn up.

EDUCATION. The pamphlet on the *Education Act*, 1944 (now in its second edition), has proved so widely useful that it is proposed to bring out a third and enlarged edition, when all the main regulations have been issued by the Minister. The possibility of providing expert analysis of other reconstruction legislation, where appropriate, is under consideration. The Education Committee is now taking up fresh problems. In July, a London conference on The Future of the Universities was held. Led by Professor G. B. Jeffery, Dr A. Radford, Dr V. E. Cosslett and Professor G. D. H. Cole, the discussion was both comprehensive and fruitful. A short report is now available, price 6d.

SOCIAL CHANGE IN BRITAIN. The first of what we hope will be a series of statistical studies has been prepared by Mark Abrams, and will be published by Gollancz in the early autumn as *The Condition of the British People 1911-45*. The purpose of this volume is to illustrate with known facts the main pattern of change in our social and economic life during the present century.

LESSONS OF LAST TIME. The mistakes in the Government policy during the years which followed the last war and the practical failure of its reconstruction plans will haunt almost every act of the new Labour Government. But the actual events of that fateful period have never been briefly documented for the use of socialists who wish to draw the real lessons from them. A new pamphlet by Robert S. W. Pollard, entitled *Reconstruction—Then and Now* bridges the gap. Its appearance is timely.

THE GAS INDUSTRY. The King's Speech has emphasised one fact that is much too easily overlooked—that nationalisation of the coal mines is only part of a policy for fuel and power. Mr Shinwell will before long have to devise and implement a detailed policy for the gas and electricity industries. Fabians have had much to say on the future of electricity supply, but have neglected its chief competitor—gas. At the request of several well-known figures in the gas industry, an exhaustive study of its present structure and methods, with proposals for the future, has now been made and will shortly be published as a pamphlet.

EVIDENCE TO GOVERNMENT BODIES. Written evidence has now been submitted to the Royal Commission on Population and, paper stocks permitting, will be published soon. Evidence has just been prepared for the committee of the Board of Trade which is considering the possible scope of a Census of Distribution. Fabians will no doubt read the report of this committee with interest, since it has been impossible to conduct research into distribution on an adequate scale for lack of the information which such a Census can give.

THE COLONIAL BUREAU

HELPING IN THE ADVANCE TOWARDS SELF-GOVERNMENT. Constitutional reforms are constantly taking place in the different Colonies, but the colonial peoples as constantly complain that the reforms do not go far enough. Within the last months the Bureau has received cables and petitions from Trinidad, Mauritius, Nigeria, British Guiana, Ceylon, Malta and Cyprus—all asking for help in securing more liberal constitutional reforms. In every case, the Bureau has been able to make representations, either directly to the Colonial Office, or through Parliament or the press.

STRIKE IN NIGERIA. When 30,000 Government employees went on strike in Nigeria in June because their wages had failed to keep pace with the increased cost of living, letters and cables were immediately sent us, bringing the facts to our notice. The Colonial Office was approached, and proposals put forward as to how the situation might be met. Messages of encouragement and suggestion were sent to the strikers. The strike has now been concluded amicably.

COLONIAL MINES. Two years ago the Bureau sent a memorandum on this subject to the Colonial Office, asking for a statement of policy. The statement was slow in appearing, and Lord Ammon raised the problem in the House of Lords last May. The Government's reply was still unsatisfactory and so a further memorandum has been sent to the Colonial Office. The Bureau has made detailed suggestions regarding the lines such a statement might take.

THE SUDAN. Egypt has raised again the question of the Sudan, asking for union. It is doubtful whether this is what the Sudanese themselves wish, or whether Egypt could do as much for the Sudanese as the particularly enlightened British Service there has done. On the other hand, if Britain is to remain in the Sudan, much more money and attention must be given this territory. These problems are discussed in a pamphlet *Sudan: The Road Ahead.*

STRATEGIC COLONIES. With the ending of the war, the position of Hong Kong, Cyprus, Gibraltar and Malta, with their special strategic importance, is coming to the fore. The whole question of strategic Colonies was discussed at length at San Francisco. A pamphlet, marshalling the general arguments on this subject, and giving the details of the position in the four Colonies mentioned, is now in the press.

CO-OPERATION IN THE COLONIES. This book, due to appear in September, is the completion of the work of a special committee on colonial co-operation set up a few years ago by the Bureau. The assistance of experts in colonial co-operation and representatives of the British Co-operative Movement was gained and the recommendations of the Committee have already been put before the Colonial Office, both in writing and in a personal deputation. This book is a pioneer piece of work in a little known subject.

THE COLONIES AND THE SAN FRANCISCO CHARTER. The form that international interest and action in colonial affairs should take was discussed in a memorandum prepared by the Bureau and circulated widely before the San Francisco Conference. It has now been published as a pamphlet under the title *Colonies and International Conscience*, which concludes with an appraisal of the decisions on this subject which were actually reached at San Francisco.

PALESTINE. The time has come for a decision to be made regarding the future of Palestine. The Bureau has prepared a symposium of views putting the different aspects of this delicate problem as impartially as possible. This pamphlet, planned to appear within a few weeks, is entitled *Palestine Controversy: a Symposium.*

THE INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

It is clear that in peacetime there will be a constant coming and going through London of old and new friends from the Continent and the Bureau is already finding that it has an important part to play in obtaining and providing information, in making introductions and generally maintaining and developing friendly relations with socialists from other countries.

SPAIN: The recent formation of the Provisional Spanish Republican Government will be welcomed by all friends of Spanish Democracy as an important step towards the complete annhilation of fascism. The pamphlet *Spain in the Post-war World* which has been prepared for a Committee of the Bureau by Ilsa and Arturo Barea makes a valuable contribution towards a better understanding of events that led up to the fascist rule of the Franco regime; and its instructive analysis of historial and economic developments in Spain points the way towards the overthrow of the present system. Important recommendations as to British policy and the attitude of the great powers are made in an introduction.

EUROPEAN INLAND TRANSPORT: There has been much disappointment at the limited scope of the *Agreement Concerning a Provisional Organisation for European Inland Transport*, published on May 8th. Discussions have now been renewed and it is to be hoped that they will lead to more concrete proposals, acceptable by a much larger number of European countries. It is only by complete co-operation that such an organisation can be really effective. A careful study has been made on behalf of the Bureau of the contribution that a permanent European Transport Organisation could make towards economic unity in Europe, in the service of the whole European community. The results will be published shortly under the title of *European Transport Unification—the Road to European Unity.*

EASTERN EUROPE: Recent debates in the House have emphasised the importance of ensuring that the Eastern European countries have full opportunities for establishing free democratic regimes. Political stability depends very largely on economic security and a careful study has been made by the Bureau during the last twelve months of some of the preliminary steps which could be taken towards the establishment of a Danube Valley Authority. The result will be published towards the end of the year.

Work is in hand on the I.L.O. and its future place in international organisation, the Reconstruction of European Industry and Agriculture and on the future of international broadcasting.

LOCAL SOCIETIES AND SOCIALIST PROPAGANDA COMMITTEE

RECENT ACTIVITIES. During the last few months the 83 Societies have devoted most of their energies to preparations for the General Election and to practical work in the Constituencies. As a result of a Conference at Jordans, various recommendations have been carried out to link up more closely the work of Societies with the Divisional Labour Parties, to which 80% of the Societies are now affiliated. Excellent relations exist between the Local Societies Committee and Transport House. John Pinkerton, the Propaganda Officer, and Hinley Atkinson, the London Organiser of the Party are members of the Committee.

METHODS OF WORK. The Committee has stimulated and co-ordinated this work by the following methods :—(1) *The Directive :* a bulletin containing suggestions for future work and giving details about the activities of some Societies. At intervals it includes memoranda on special subjects, e.g., How To Organise Delegate Conferences, The Use Of Films as Propaganda, Local Research; (2) By the organisation of weekend schools and day Conferences, which have been devoted to both politics and organisation. Successful conferences were held at Newfield Hall, Yorkshire and Lindors, Wye Valley. Some Societies have organised similar conferences themselves, with excellent results; (3) By supplying speakers and encouraging the Regional Organisations of Local Societies to prepare their own panels of specialists.

SPECIAL WORK OF LOCAL SOCIETIES. One of the special tasks of Local Societies has been to make an appeal to professional, technical and managerial people who are not always adequately covered by Party propaganda. This is best done by arranging a connected series of meetings where the more detailed aspects of Party policy can be discussed. This work is a most useful complement to the Movement's propaganda, and a valuable means of Socialist education. Special conferences on particular problems have been organised by a number of Societies, e.g., on the Future of British Industry (Sheffield, 300 delegates), Full Employment (Birmingham), and Medical Services (Aberdeen). International Conferences were held at Bristol, Birmingham, Hartlepools, Leeds and Watford.

GENERAL ELECTION. In common with the rest of the Society the Local Societies entered fully into the work of the Election. Its appeal to the sections of the community mentioned above was effective. Below we insert a few extracts about the work of Local Societies, which give a picture of their contribution.

MANCHESTER. This Society accepted complete responsibility for two polling districts in the Rusholme Division and arranged for the canvassing and literature-distribution. This constituency was the most difficult in the area, and it is satisfactory to note that it was won for Labour by a majority of 10.

HULL. The Society played a leading part in connection with loud speaker propaganda. It also organised a team of speakers who functioned as a Brains Trust and visited various parts of the constituency with much success.

BURY ST. EDMUNDS provided the agent, campaign manager, committee room manager and a number of effective speakers.

HARTLEPOOLS. This society supplied the agent, meetings secretary, committee room manager and organiser for the borough. Six speakers were provided and six chairmen. It is estimated that half the canvass was performed by Fabians,

BOURNEMOUTH. The Society provided chairmen or speakers for 27 meetings. Most of the officers not only spoke but were responsible for special jobs during the campaign.

WARRINGTON organised propaganda in built-up areas in which a special team of canvassers worked in conjunction with a loudspeaker apparatus. The results were most successful.

SHEFFIELD. The Chairman of this Society acted as Mr. Alexander's agent and the Society provided twelve speakers. In some wards the majority of the canvassing was done by Fabians. 34 meetings were covered with literature and sales realised £19 19s. 0d.

WATFORD. The complete organisation of one ward was undertaken by the Society and the secretary addressed 30 meetings during the campaign. Other members assisted on the loud speakers.

ST. ALBANS. Here the candidate, assistant agent, transport officer, meetings officer were all Fabians, and members provided three Committee Rooms and five cars.

THE FUTURE. For the first time large numbers of the middle classes have supported the Labour Party. It will be necessary in the months to come, not only to mobilise their support by explaining in detail the measures of the new Government, but also to bring them into the Movement so that they can make their valuable contribution. Amongst many other tasks, this is particularly the work of Local Societies. Local Societies are also giving valuable help in connection with the forthcoming municipal contests and a number of Societies are not only nominating candidates but are carrying out local research which should be a most effective aid to the Labour forces.

New "Peace Aims Pamphlets"—ready shortly

COMMENTARY ON THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER.
Gilbert Murray, David Mitrany, G. D. H. Cole, Norman Bentwich and Rita Hinden. ONE SHILLING

NEW MODEL FOR EUROPE?
Proposals for international co-operation in Western Europe. Articles reprinted from *The Economist*. SIXPENCE

DEMOCRACY AND PEACE.
Christopher Dawson and Malcolm Spencer. FOURPENCE

(Postage 1d. extra in all cases).

NATIONAL PEACE COUNCIL, 144 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1

BOOK REVIEWS

(Books received from Publishers only)

ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

A CENTURY OF CO-OPERATION By G. D. H. Cole (Co-operative Union 10/-)

This book is the first history of the British Co-operative Movement to be written by a social historian. Much that has hitherto passed current as co-operative history is pure legend. Much of the rest has been written by economists, journalists and teachers with little time for original historical research, not to mention by amateurs with no training in it. Many commemorative volumes have been published whose value as history is largely neutralised because their purpose has been to glorify particular institutions or forms of co-operation. One of our most eminent social historians has given us an objective, though inevitably sympathetic account of the rise of Co-operation in Britain.

What can the student of social movements gain from Professor Cole's history ?

1. A broader and juster appreciation of the Co-operative Movement's relation to its social environment than is offered by any other book known to this reviewer. This applies especially to the complex origin of the Movement, which Professor Cole fits neatly into the jig-saw of events, movements and counter-movements, agitations and crises which compose the history of the first half of the 19th century.
2. A more definite answer, given in an appendix, to the question—never answered yet with complete certainty—who were the Rochdale Pioneers ?
3. A fuller and more detailed picture of the Co-operative Movement's conquest of Britain during the first thirty years of its history, illustrated by an interesting set of maps.
4. A more adequate treatment of the ' middle ' period of co-operative history which ended with the last war.
5. A shrewd and balanced but all too brief appreciation of the Co-operative Movement's present position in the national economy.

This is a book which not only the active Co-operators but all who are looking for alternatives to capitalism must weigh and study. The great risk is that it may not be read as widely and as thoroughly as it needs because of its war-time presentation, which gives the impression that it has been crammed into the limited quantity of paper available. Yet this history must be read by all serious students of the British people and their mutual-aid institutions, for its place is alongside the Webbs' studies of Co-operation which it at once completes and corrects.

W. P. W.

CARTELS—CHALLENGE TO A FREE WORLD By Wendell Berge (Public Affairs Press $3 25c.)

PATENTS FOR HITLER By Guenter Reimann (Gollancz 6/-)

Both of these books are based upon information which has been revealed by the investigations of the Anti-Trust Division of the Department of Justice and various Senate Committees in U S A. Berge's experience as Assistant Attorney General has enabled him to select the really salient facts on the activities of the international cartels before the war. Reimann's book is more the work of a journalist who leaves the reader duly impressed by the wickedness in the world but without any definite conclusions.

Probably the most important of the American revelations of the pre-war activities of international cartels is the way in which the Nazi State was able to utilise the natural restrictive tendencies of the business interests participating in those cartels to cripple or weaken the war potential of other countries. The President's Office of Facts and Figures summed up the situation in 1942 by

saying that the enemy ' has worked for many years to weaken our military potential. Through patent controls and cartels agreements he succeeded in limiting American production and export of many vital materials . . . He was waging war, and he did his work well decoying important American companies into agreements the purpose of which they did not sense '. It is noticeable how many of the cartels have been built up mainly on control of patents. Berge writes that ' the patent has become the principal power weapon of modern monopoly and the misuse of patents the larger tactic of industrial cartels '.
The facts recorded in these two books are certainly a powerful indictment of private monopoly, but they have little to offer Socialists in the way of policy-making. Berge is a whole-hogging trust buster, who is obviously concerned with keeping American industry out of international cartels for the sake of expanding America's export trade. He believes in free enterprise and free trade and rejects any form of trade regulation even when it is undertaken by Governments. Reimann takes a more detached view.

A. F.

FULL EMPLOYMENT AND STATE CONTROL A Symposium edited by D. Caradoc Jones (Jonathan Cape 8/6)

This symposium, aims at discussing what amount and types of State control would be necessary to secure full employment. The views range from Professor Allan Fisher's odd idea that full employment is only possible if consumption is drastically restricted to Professor Stanley Jevon's demand for a huge forward programme on all fronts. Mr. Caradoc Jones contributes a summary of the articles of the other six, a note on the Government White Paper and a further brief note critical of Sir William Beveridge's book. There is little that is fresh in the symposium, and its price is high.

M. I. C.

THE FUTURE OF BRITISH FARMING By A. W. Menzies-Kitchin (Pilot Press 5/–)

A concise and well-documented analysis by the head of Cambridge Agricultural Economics Department. The conclusion is reached that we should concentrate on producing the protective foods—milk, meat, eggs, vegetables and fruit—while at the same time raising our output per man. It is disappointing to find no mention of the crucial problems of land control and land ownership.

F. W. B.

POLITICAL AND SOCIAL.

EVERYBODY'S GUIDE TO PARLIAMENT By W. J. Brown (George Allen & Unwin 7/6)

This book serves as an interesting introduction for both the lay and the hitherto uninterested person in Parliamentary affairs. It covers most aspects of Parliamentary procedure in an incisive and simple style. To be recommended to those who are unacquainted with the methods of such a great institution.

R. D.

PACIFISM AND CONSCIENTIOUS OBJECTION By G. C. Field Current Problems Service No. 24 (Cambridge University Press 3/6)

In this little book Professor Guy Field, chairman for four years of a Tribunal, expounds in a liberal and fairminded fashion the problems of the Pacifist objector to military service, and demolishes his arguments. The demolition process will probably be convincing to everybody except the Conscientious Objector himself, though it may be felt that it would have been more convincing still if Professor Field had let a real C O of ability (such as, for example, the late Lord Allen of Hurtwood) to state the case first-hand, instead of himself setting out the arguments which he then easily knocks down.
In general, however, the booklet is moderate, sensible and interesting. The first chapter, however, on how society should treat the pacifist, does not go deep enough. The problem of the pacifist is only a particular case of the problem

of the practising anarchist—who is not necessarily a philosophic anarchist—in modern society. This is an extremely important question, for in a highly organised community the element of anarchism is as essential as salt—one of the greatest defects of Germany was its almost total lack of anarchism. But Professor Field does not do more than scratch the surface of the problem.

M. I. C.

GOVERNMENT CONTROL IN WAR (Lees Knowles Lectures, 1945) By Lord Hankey, with foreword by G. M. Trevelyan (Cambridge University Press. 4/6)

These lectures tell the reader more about Lord Hankey's own mentality than about the conduct of the present war. There is somewhat more information about the last war, including the news, which to those nourished on 1914 Government propaganda, may be news, that we were excellently well prepared for it and followed to the full the precepts of Hobbes' Leviathan. ' That every man ought to endeavour Peace, as farre as he has hope of obtaining it ; and when he cannot obtain it, that he may seeke, and use, all helpe, and advantages of Warre '. (Lord Hankey's own quotation.)
Mildly interesting but not very.

M. I. C.

HOUSING AND THE STATE By Marian Bowley (George Allen & Unwin 15/–)

A book of this type was long overdue. The author has set out to survey the housing problem with its economic and social implications.
In one of its concluding chapters the deduction is made that less than one million houses are required to meet immediate needs. This may not meet with immediate approval, but the case is well made out. One million houses with Scots Barlow and a Ministry of Housing will be worth more than four without.

E. J. D.

THESE OUR CHILDREN By Anne Foster (Blandford Press 104 pp. 6/–)

A description, by the leader of a youth club in the Midlands, of the life of the club during the years of war. ' The major part deals with the gradual discovering and knowing of a heterogeneous mass of industrial youngsters '. The author also writes on housing, education and religion as they affect the adolescent, but does not develop the themes in sufficient detail to satisfy the reader.

A. A.

THE CONTENT OF EDUCATION Interim Report of the Council for Curriculum Reform of the New Education Fellowship (University of London Press 8/6)

This rather verbose book indicates very clearly the shocking lack of educational research in this country. Almost everyone concerned with education will agree, if the question is put, that raising of the school-leaving age and extensions of secondary and further education are liable to be of very little use unless attention is paid to what is taught in school and the methods by which it is taught ; and many, including the present reviewer, have contributed suggestions as to subject-matter and methodology. But these suggestions remain suggestions, and there is so far absolutely no documented body of experience which can really help the teachers or the education committee to decide, for example, at what point in their school lives children ought to be taught mathematics, what mathematics they should be taught and in what way.
It all remains in the air ; and the New Education Fellowship team is justified in complaining that the factual studies on which practical proposals should be based are not in existence. The result, however, is to make their own book very nebulous. They start with excellent generalisations about children and their development, but they do not bring them to earth in any way or relate them to any practical school time-table. Their book will no doubt serve to set some of its readers thinking, which is all to the good ; but the readers, if they are practicing teachers, will still have to solve their own problems for themselves.

M. I. C.

ENGLISH PUBLIC SCHOOLS By Rex Warner Britain in Pictures series (Collins Illustrated 4/6)

Rex Warner manages, in the small space allotted to the text, to give a clear and intelligent account of the history and development of English public schools (correcting by the way some of the more common misconceptions), and also to include a fair amount of reasonable criticism of those schools and of appreciation for the great day-schools and the newer county schools. The illustrations are pleasant and well-chosen. Hardly a book which Fabians will wish to buy for themselves, but one which they could commend.

M. I. C.

EDUCATION IN BRITAIN Edited by R. A. Scott James (Frederick Mullar 6/–)

Fifteen essays, all out-of-date, written for the British Council and reissued with some photographs. Six pages on elementary schools, six on State secondary school, thirty-five on universities. Some interesting remarks on training by Professor Brian Stanley of Newcastle—nothing else.

M. I. C.

PHYSICIAN HEAL THYSELF By G. Scott Williamson, M C, M D (Edin.) (Faber 5/–)

Dr. Scott Williamson, M D, of Peckham Health Centre fame, presents us with a Thesis of the Medical Services based, as he states, on ' the government of society, by the individual, for the individual, through the individual '. He makes it perfectly clear that anything savouring of a monopoly or of State rule of medical services is distasteful to him, because in his view it cuts directly across ethical medical principles.

He believes that it is ' tools ' which must be socialised and not individuals. He outlines fully a scheme for a national medical service based on what he calls ' social liberalism ' and uses the patient as the measuring stick and guide to medical practice.

The Thesis raises many interesting points, some undoubtedly revolutionary, some contentious. The book is worthy of general public interest, particularly at the present time.

W. S.

SCIENCE AND THE PLANNED STATE By J. R. Baker (George Allen & Unwin)

Science for sciences' sake. That is the theme of this book written by a confirmed ' anti-planner '. Strong criticisms of the methods of Soviet science and scientists are included in this account of how science, both political and pure, is viewed by an opponent of its systematic organisation.

The author believes that fundamental research and science generally will be gravely damaged if it is centrally planned.

An interesting but not a convincing interpretation of the inflexible ideas of a ' freedomist '

A. J. A. D.

INTERNATIONAL AND COLONIAL

PIONEERS IN WORLD ORDER Edited by H. E. Da ies (Oxford University Press 18/6)

This book, the foreword tells us, has been written by Americans all of whom were associated with the League of Nations, and describes realistically the pioneering attempts to establish a system of international relationships in a century when such a system has become imperative. The outstanding lesson is that the peoples of the world can have peace if they want it—or want it enough. They cannot get it by default or half-effort.

B. D.

BY WHAT AUTHORITY ? By Hugh J. Schonfield (Herbert Jenkins 6/–)

The author gives brief, clear descriptions of the various attempts to establish a world order, from the time of the Roman Empire until to-day. He describes the attempts to achieve this end by world domination, and illustrates by apt

quotation the doctrines on which these attempts are based. The unity of the united nations depends on recognition of a common enemy and therefore is unlikely to last. Federalism, so popular before the war, overlooks the fundamental difficulties of international co-operation. The weakness of schemes hitherto propounded is the absence of a common belief which would serve as a basis for world conscience. The author analyses the problem clearly. The solution he offers is a world religion, and says the only answer to the ideal of a Master Race is that of a servant nation—a community of men and women enrolled from all nations offering spiritual leadership.

E. C.

NATIONALISM AND AFTER By E. H. Carr (Macmillan 3/6)

A study of the relation between nationalism and the history of international relations from the seventeenth century until today and an analysis of the conditions essential for effective international authority. The author points out that a nation is a historical unit, not a natural unit; no natural right can be claimed for it. The analogy often drawn between a national community of individuals and an international community of nations is false. Freedom and equality describe characteristics peculiar to persons, not to groups; they are reflected in the lives of men and women.

International organisation will only be durable if it can rest on principles which wake the loyalty of men and women and promote social justice, freedom from want and full employment. Hitherto these ends have been pursued only on a national basis. The form of the organisation will be determined by its function. This is a thought provoking and important book which goes below the clichés too readily used in discussions of international relations such as 'equality of sovereign states' and compels the reader to indulge in clear thinking.

E. C.

COMMON SENSE TODAY By Kurt Lachmann. Foreword by W. Harvey Moore (Torchstream Books 2/6)

The author, a former member of the Berlin Bar, gave this lecture to the Grotius Society under the title 'On the Rights of the Individual, the Sovereignty of the State, and Universal Law'. It is of the power of Law without the 'apparatus of compulsion' of the supreme significance of man the individual, of the urgent need for his protection—e.g., of minorities, the stateless, and in time of war—and of a universal law which shall give this protection. Note the sentence:—'Every individual will be entitled to lay a claim against any State which treats him in a way contrary to—or incompatible with—Universal Law'. A Senate of highly qualified Judges presides over its administration. The details of the World constitution which is involved are not fully worked out in this brief but most suggestive treatment.

B. M. P.

LAND TENURE IN THE COLONIES By V. Liversage (Cambridge University Press 7/6)

Mr Liversage brings to our notice one of the fundamental but neglected problems of the Colonial Empire, and pleads for the greater consideration of land-tenure and its implications in the formulation of general colonial policy. He provides a broad but informative survey of forms of land-tenure in primitive and western societies, their social functions and results, and proceeds to a discussion of modern individual ownership and the landlord-tenant relationship. It is a good general introduction to the subject, although the sociological aspect of the matter has not been very well served in some respects.

B. A. H.

FOOD FOR THE WORLD Edited by T. W. Schultz (Cambridge University Press 22/6)

The problems raised in the book are:—evidence for the food standard proposed by the Hot Springs' Conference; changes needed in agriculture; food supplies in prospect after the war; obstacles to better nutrition in spite of large supply of food; international trade and collaboration; effects of improved food supplies on population. Little quantitative information—degree of scarcity

(*Continued on p.* 19)